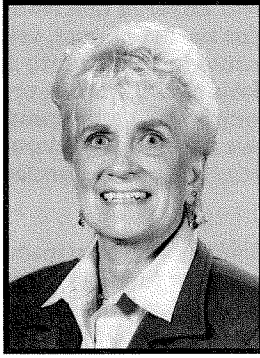


# Hammerstrom's

for the people  
in the 17th Senate District

# Hotline



State Senator  
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## SENATE MOVES TO CREATE MEMORIAL FOR PURPLE HEART RECIPIENTS

The Michigan Senate recently introduced a bill to allow for a monument near the state Capitol honoring Purple Heart recipients. The legislation was requested by the Military Order of the Purple Heart – Department of Michigan, which also will cover the expenses of the monument's placement. The national organization is seeking to place identical monuments at each state capitol. To date, monuments have been placed at 43 state capitols across the nation. The legislation will allow the monument to be placed in Veterans Memorial Park, which is located at the state Capitol complex in Lansing. The Purple Heart award was originally created as the Badge of Military Merit by one of the world's most famous heroes, General George Washington. Senate Bill 764 has been referred to the Senate Committee on Senior Citizens and Veterans Affairs.

**DID YOU KNOW?** According to the Military Order of the Purple Heart, the Purple Heart is the oldest military decoration in the world in present use and the first American award made available to soldiers.

**SCHOOL DISTRICTS RECEIVE ASSISTANCE FOR STUDENTS DISPLACED BY HURRICANE KATRINA** The Senate took action in an effort to assist school districts who take in students displaced by Hurricane Katrina. The Senate approved an amendment to the state school-aid bill that would allow districts to count evacuated students toward their per-pupil funding amount. The amendment would allow the Michigan Department of Education to include affected students who enroll in a district past the normal count date. Since Proposal A, Michigan school districts are funded on a "per-pupil" basis, meaning the amount of funding each district receives is directly related to the number of students enrolled. Under the amendment, schools will receive funding for displaced students even if they were not enrolled at the time of the fall student count. The Michigan Department of Education has also sent information to school superintendents throughout the state to facilitate the provision of educational services to any evacuees in need.

**SENATE TO PARTICIPATE IN BREAST CANCER AWARENESS CAMPAIGN** October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month, a campaign that has encouraged women to schedule mammograms, pushed for better treatments, and saved lives. To show support for the awareness campaign, the Senate and other government offices will observe Lee National Denim Day again this year. Lee National Denim Day, the world's largest single-day fundraiser for breast cancer, will be recognized nationally Friday, October 7, 2005. Lee® Jeans encourages millions of people nationwide to slip into their favorite jeans for one day and make a \$5 donation to the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, a nonprofit organization dedicated to eradicating breast cancer. Participating businesses and organizations allow employees and members to wear denim in exchange for the \$5 donation. Individuals may also show their support by wearing pink ribbons on their clothing. For more information about Lee National Denim Day or the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, please visit my website and click on the pink ribbon icon.

**SCRAP TIRE CLEANUP GRANTS AVAILABLE** Applications are now available from the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) for funding under the Scrap Tire Cleanup Grant Program. Since program funding began in 1993, the DEQ has issued over \$9.5 million in Cleanup Grants throughout the state. Property owners with abandoned scrap tires and scrap tires at collection sites are eligible for funding assistance under the program. The DEQ will give priority to funding activities at collection sites in which the scrap tires were accumulated prior to January 1, 1991, and at those sites that pose an imminent threat to public health, safety, welfare, or the environment. The application and all supporting documents must be received or postmarked on or before Friday, October 21, 2005. Applications cannot be accepted by e-mail or fax. To receive an application, please contact the Scrap Tire Regulatory Program at 517-335-4924. You may also download an application packet from the DEQ website at [www.michigan.gov/deq](http://www.michigan.gov/deq).

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If you would like to receive future issues of Hammerstrom's Hotline via e-mail,  
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